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24 March 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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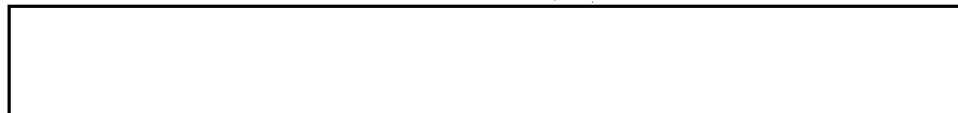
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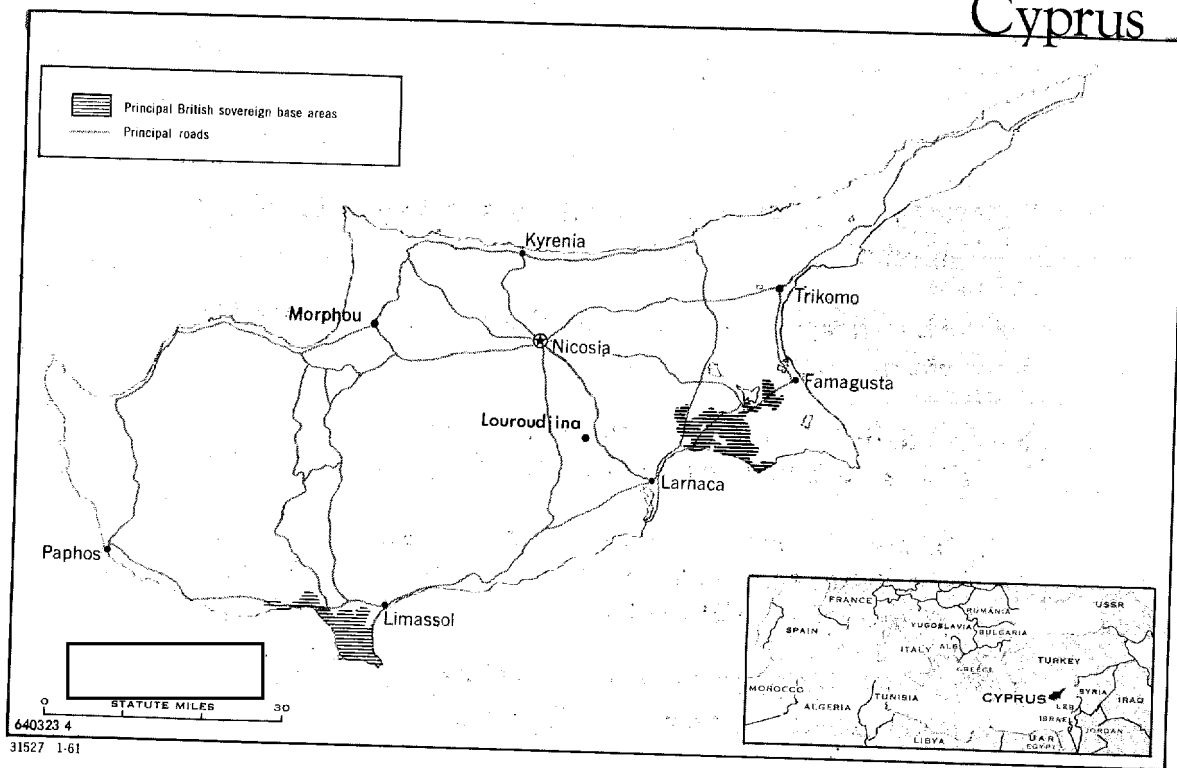
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Cyprus



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Cyprus: Some progress apparently has been made toward selecting a mediator for the longer term political problems of the island.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry has announced that Ankara has been asked to give official approval to appointment of Finnish Ambassador to Stockholm Sakari Tuomioja as mediator. Tuomioja was the UN representative in Laos in 1959. Previous reports from Ankara have indicated that the Turks would accept Tuomioja. The Finnish press claims that President Makarios has said that the Greek Cypriots also would accept Tuomioja "willingly."

Most of the island has been calm, but firing broke out yesterday at the village of Louroudjina, halfway from Nicosia to Larnaca. The situation near Kyrenia is still tense. The Turks probably expect an attack sooner or later against their control of the Kyrenia-Nicosia road.

During the next ten days, which include two Greek Cypriot holidays, the Greek Cypriots may make new efforts to extend their control. Greek Independence Day is 25 March and "EOKA Day"--the anniversary of the outbreak of violence against the British in 1955 --is 1 April.

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*Zanzibar: Pro-Communist elements are moving to eliminate the last moderate, pro-Western influences in Zanzibar.

Two moderates--the capable finance minister and the education minister--seem certain to be replaced in an imminent cabinet reshuffle. Both men are leaders in President Karume's Afro-Shirazi Party. After the party has been purged, the pro-Communists' next target will probably be the police force, which is still in moderate hands.

The Indians and Pakistanis who dominate the island's merchant community are likely to depart as a result of Karume's decree of 21 March authorizing the confiscation of property without compensation.

At least 140 of the 170 British expatriate officials still in the administration expect to leave by August. A large percentage of the Arab civil servants hope to emigrate to Oman and Muscat, whence the ancestors of many of them came to Zanzibar.

The Communist cabinet secretary has said that the pro-Communists intend to harass Western diplomatic representatives, especially those from the US, until they are voluntarily withdrawn. Communist official representation on Zanzibar, meanwhile, is rapidly increasing. There are 6 Soviet, 15 East German, and 12 Chinese Communist representatives already there, and embassies are to be established by Poland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Cuba.

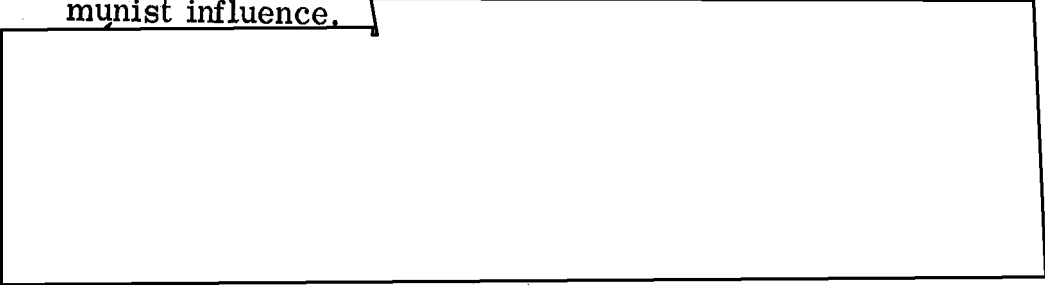
The Soviet ship Faizabad, which arrived in Zanzibar last week, is unloading trucks, small arms, and artillery pieces for the "Peoples Liberation Army." This force, which apparently is being formed with Karume's approval, includes some 250 trainees from

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"Field Marshal" Okello's former band. It may eventually include the 150-man special force led by Cuban-trained men loyal to Foreign Minister Babu, who still seems to be the local prime mover in expanding Communist influence.



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Ceylon: Prime Minister Bandaranaike's government is getting deeper into trouble, and she may be considering extreme measures to stay in power.

The regime has been plagued for several months by unusually serious economic difficulties, and has given its critics further ammunition by making a number of unpopular moves in the past few weeks.

Strikes forced Mrs. Bandaranaike to declare a state of emergency early this month to restore essential services. A week later she prorogued Parliament, apparently to head off a no-confidence vote. On 19 March, the government imposed partial press censorship to prevent critical reporting of cabinet meetings.

These actions have not only aroused the opposition, but threaten to produce defections from Mrs. Bandaranaike's own party. She apparently is exploring the possibility of drawing opposition elements, which include several prominent Marxists, into a coalition. Most opposition leaders, however, probably feel they would have more to gain if she were forced to call a general election.

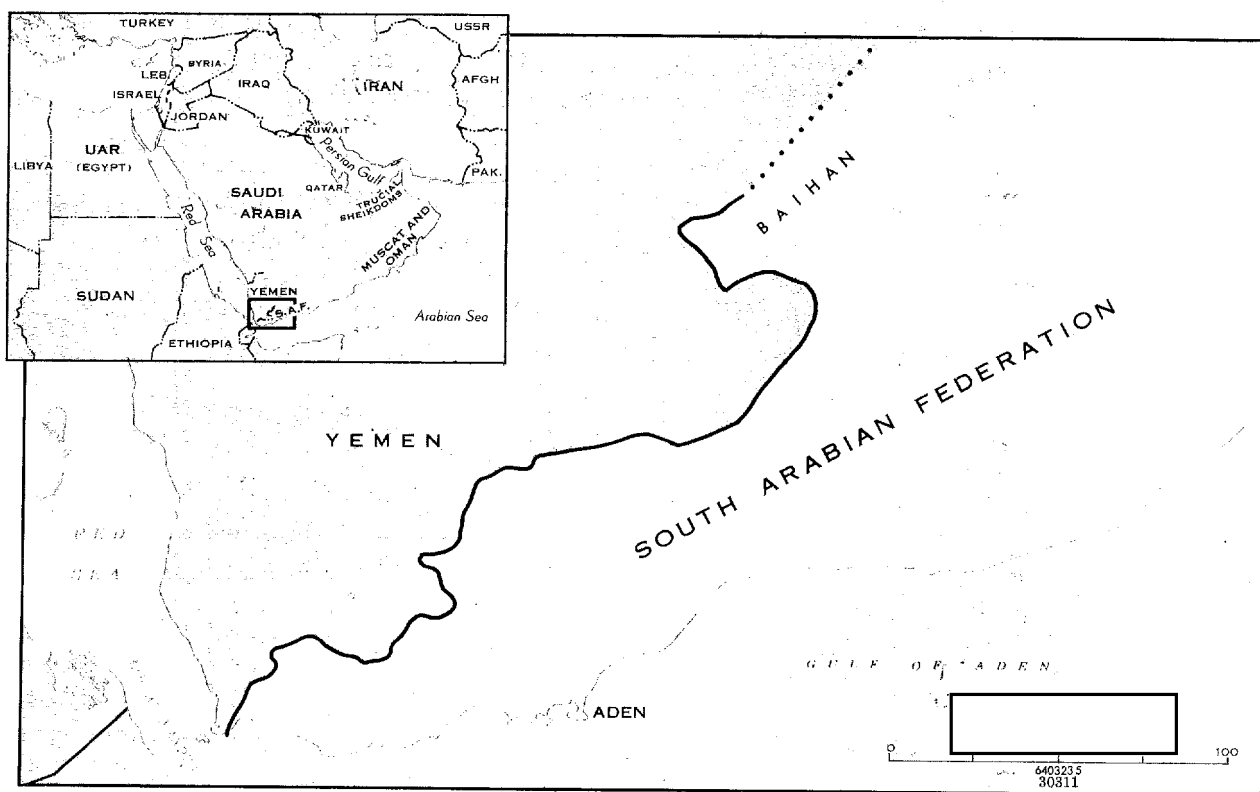
Mrs. Bandaranaike is said to be considering some form of extraconstitutional rule to perpetuate her control in case she cannot form a coalition.

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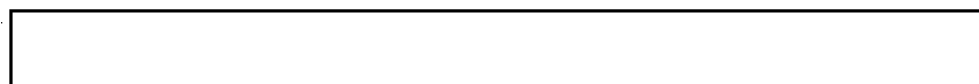
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South Arabian Federation - Yemen: The UK, nominally at the request of the South Arabian Federation, is reacting strongly against a 13 March raid by Egyptian-Yemeni planes on Baihan, which the Egyptians and Yemeni republicans suspect of being a center of arms support for the Yemeni royalists. London has decided to protest diplomatically to Yemen and to Egypt, to complain to the UN, and to authorize the RAF in Aden to fire on any aircraft intruding into the Federation's territory from Yemen.

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